

MA ENGLISH  
Third Semester  
ENGLISH PROSE II – MILL TO DIDION  
(MEN- 304)

Duration: 3Hrs.

Full Marks: 70

Part-A (Objective) =20  
Part-B (Descriptive) =50

(PART-B: Descriptive)

Duration: 2 hrs. 40 mins.

Marks: 50

Answer any four from *Question no. 2 to 8*  
*Question no. 1 is compulsory.*

1. Briefly elucidate how American transcendentalist philosopher and essayist Ralph Waldo Emerson's essay 'Self-Reliance' contains the most thorough statement of his recurrent themes, the need for each individual to avoid conformity and follow their own instincts and ideas. 10
2. Comment on the issues of 'Identity Crisis' and 'Dual Existence', with reference to your reading of the essay, 'Once More to the Lake'. How does E.B. White portray his internal conflicts through the personal essay? (7+3=10)
3. In her pivotal essay "The Death of the Moth", how does Virginia Woolf illustrate the universal struggle between life and death? In her conclusion, "death is stronger than I am", is she trying to remind humanity of the power that death has over life and the futility of attempting to avoid death? (3+7=10)
4. "Nothing is important but life. And for myself, I can absolutely see life nowhere but in the living." Comment after D. H. Lawrence in his essay, 'Why the Novel Matters', how the Novel is a bright book of life and how can the novel as a tremulation make the whole man alive tremble 'making it superior than poetry, philosophy and science? (5+5=10)

5. Briefly analyse the key differences between man and woman in love, as stated by Simone De Beauvoir in her seminal essay "The Woman in Love". What are the explanations stated by her in order to resolve the dissimilar attitudes towards love, based on these differences? (5+5=10)
6. What are the functions served by "Kitchen Talks" in the lives of the black women in America and how? Elaborate. (5+5=10)
7. What is Nation Language and how does it come into existence? Explain with the help of your prescribed essay. (6+4=10)
8. What, according to Rushdie, are the characteristics of the Commonwealth Literature ghetto? How does he criticise Commonwealth Literature? (5+5=10)

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**MA ENGLISH**  
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**Duration: 20 minutes**

**Marks – 20**

**(PART A - Objective Type)**

**I. Fill in the blanks:**

**(1x15=15)**

1. Joan Didion wrote her essay "Self Respect" in the year \_\_\_\_\_
2. According to Mill, the object of poetry is confessedly to act upon the \_\_\_\_\_
3. "A sound body in a sound \_\_\_\_\_".
4. "The day when it will be possible for the woman to love in her strength and not in her \_\_\_\_\_, not to escape from herself but to find herself, not out of resignation but to affirm herself, love will become for her as for man, the source of life and not a mortal danger."
5. The meaning of 'Cest la vie' as referred to by D. H. Lawrence is \_\_\_\_\_
6. Pater says that the three factors which determine the style of an author are Diction, Design and \_\_\_\_\_.
7. 'The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction' is an essay by German cultural critic Walter Benjamin published in the year \_\_\_\_\_.
8. The popular children's book 'Stuart Little' is written by \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Envy is \_\_\_\_\_, imitation is suicide.
10. For Joan Didion, people with self-respect exhibit a certain toughness, a kind of moral nerve, they display what was once called \_\_\_\_\_.
11. The English language ceased to be the sole possession of the \_\_\_\_\_ some time ago.
12. If F.D.R. was their hero \_\_\_\_\_, Harvey was their HOD.

13. Nation Language, on the other hand, is the submerged area of that dialect which is much more closely allied to the African experience in the \_\_\_\_\_

14. The word \_\_\_\_\_ has been bandied about for a long time, and it carries pejorative overtones.

15. Not only was it a ghetto, but it was actually an exclusive \_\_\_\_\_

## II. Answer True Or False

(1x5=5)

1. A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds, adored by little statesmen and philosophers and divines.
2. Virginia Woolf's purpose in writing the essay "The Death of the Moth" is to depict the pathetic nature of life in the face of death, and to garner respect for the awesome power that death has over life.
3. According to Wordsworth the logical opposite of poetry is prose.
4. The truth of poetry is to paint the human soul truly, the truth of fiction is to give a true picture of life.
5. True happiness and fulfillment can only come through a recognition of one's own uniqueness, talent and effort.

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